

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4, 6, 10-13, and 15-29 are pending. Claims 5, 7-9, 14, and 22 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 15-18, 27, and 29 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced. Applicant believes the claims comply with 35 U.S.C. 112.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 10-13 and 24-26. Applicant further notes that claims 15-17 and 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended the claims accordingly. Specifically, claims 15-17 have been rewritten in independent form. Claim 18 has been amended to include the limitation of original claim 22. Therefore, claims 15-17 are allowable; and claim 18 and claims 19-21 and 23 depending therefrom are also allowable.

Claims 1-9, 14, 18-21, 23, 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Emmot et al. US Patent 5,860,078.

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 1 as amended is novel and patentable over Emmot et al. because, for instance, Emmot et al. does not disclose or suggest that the plurality of parts comprise a first sub directory having even bits of each entry in the cache directory and a second sub directory having odd bits of each entry in the cache directory.

Emmot merely discloses partitioning a search address tag associated with a search request into a plurality of sections. Accordingly, claim 1 and claims 2-4 and 6 depending therefrom are patentable.

Applicant respectfully asserts that independent claim 27 as amended is novel and patentable over Emmot et al. because, for instance, Emmot et al. does not disclose or suggest that the cache blocks associated with the cache directory include a first sub directory having even bits of each entry in the cache directory and a second sub directory having odd bits of each entry in the cache directory.

Emmot merely discloses a cache system that includes a group of tag comparators 507-510 comparing its corresponding cache read tag against the five block tags stored in the mini directory. Therefore, claim 27 and claim 28 depending therefrom are patentable.

Applicant respectfully contends that independent claim 29 as amended is novel and patentable over Emmot et al. because, for instance, Emmot et al. does not disclose or suggest that the cache blocks associated with the cache directory include a first sub directory having even bits of each entry in the cache directory and a second sub directory having odd bits of each entry in the cache directory.


Emmot merely discloses a cache system that includes a group of tag comparators 507-510 comparing its corresponding cache read tag against the five block tags stored in the mini directory.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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